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SECTION 272 SUNSETS FOR QWEST COMMUNICATIONS INTERNATIONAL INC. IN THE STATES OF COLORADO, IDAHO, IOWA, MONTANA, NEBRASKA, NORTH DAKOTA, UTAH, WASHINGTON AND WYOMING BY OPERATION OF LAW ON DECEMBER 23, 2005 PURSUANT TO SECTION 272(f)(1)

WC Docket No. 02-112

The provisions of section 272 (other than section 272(e)) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the Act), applicable to Bell Operating Company (BOC) provision of in-region, interLATA telecommunications services sunset for the operations of Qwest Communications International Inc. (Qwest) in the states of Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming by operation of law as provided in section 272(f)(1), effective December 23, 2005.

Section 272 of the Act requires BOCs to provide in-region, interLATA telecommunications services through separate corporate affiliates, subject to certain safeguards. 47 U.S.C. § 272(a)(2). Section 272(f)(1) provides that the provisions in section 272 (other than section 272(e)) expire three years after a BOC or BOC affiliate is authorized under section 271 to provide in-region, interLATA services, unless the Commission extends such 3-year period by rule or order. 47 U.S.C. § 272(f)(1).

The Commission granted Qwest section 271 authorization for the provision of in-region, interLATA services in the states of Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming in an order released on December 23, 2002. Pursuant to section 272(f)(1), the provisions of section 272 (other than section 272(e)) sunset by operation of law for Qwest in the states of Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming, effective December 23, 2005.

For further information, please contact Jon Minkoff, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at (202) 418-1580.

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¹ Application by Qwest Communications International, Inc. for Authorization to Provide In-Region, InterLATA Services in the States of Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming, WC Docket No. 02-314, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 17 FCC Red 26303 (2002).

² See Section 272(f)(1) Sunset of the BOC Separate Affiliate and Related Requirements, WC Docket No. 02-112, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 17 FCC Rcd 26869 (2002) (finding that section 272(f)(1) is best interpreted as providing for a state-by-state sunset).